



## FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Department of Emergency Preparedness

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# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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## Nationwide Wireless Emergency Alert and Emergency Alert System Test Date Changed to October 3, 2018

FREDERICK, MD – Frederick County Emergency Management wants to inform the public that the nationwide Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) and Emergency Alert System (EAS) test scheduled for September 20, 2018 has been rescheduled to October 3, 2018. The test will be conducted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Due to emergency response in the Carolinas FEMA will be postponing the test until October 3, 2018. This will be the first nationwide Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) WEA and EAS test.

Any specific questions on the test should be directed to the agencies as shown below:

Comments to FEMA can be emailed to [FEMA-National-Test@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-National-Test@fema.dhs.gov)  
Comments to the FCC can be registered on their comment portal at  
<https://www.fcc.gov/general/public-safety-support-center>

The WEA system is an essential part of America's emergency preparedness. Since its launch in 2012, the WEA system has been used more than 33,000 times to warn the public about dangerous weather, missing children, and other critical situations – all through alerts on cell phones.

WEA is a public safety system that allows customers who own certain wireless phones and other enabled mobile devices to receive geographically-targeted, text-like messages alerting them of imminent threats to safety in their area. Wireless companies volunteer to participate in WEA, which is the result of a unique public/private partnership between the FCC, FEMA and the wireless industry to enhance public safety.

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is a national public warning system that requires broadcasters, cable television systems, wireless cable systems, satellite digital audio radio service (SDARS) providers, and direct broadcast satellite (DBS) providers to provide the communications capability to the President to address the American public during a national emergency. The system also may be used by state and local authorities to deliver important emergency information, such as AMBER alerts and weather information targeted to specific areas.

Residents are strongly encouraged to register to receive emergency information specific to

## Nationwide Wireless Emergency Alert and Emergency Alert System Test

Frederick County from the county and municipal officials via our ALERT Frederick County notification system at: [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ALERT](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ALERT)

Like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FCGMDDDEM/> and follow us on Twitter [https://twitter.com/FCG\\_DEM](https://twitter.com/FCG_DEM) Emergency messages are also broadcast on WFMD 930 AM, WFRE 99.9 FM, WAFY 103.1 FM, Frederick County Government cable channel 19, Frederick County Public Schools cable channel 18, municipal government cable channel 99 (where available) and WDVM TV station.

For more information on preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergencies and hazards, visit [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/READY](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/READY). The Department of Emergency Preparedness can be contacted at 301-600-1746 or [EM@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:EM@FrederickCountyMD.gov).

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